Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for gray value correction of binary image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data with n bits, wherein n > 1;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell; ~~and~~

providing the low-pass filter with an asymmetrical distribution of filter coefficients with respect to the filter window;

obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point, said fractions being less than 1, and obtaining further coefficients for the asymmetrical distribution by using the same filter function as used for obtaining symmetrical distibutions; and

obtaining corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data with a threshold value operation.

Claims 2 - 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~The method according to claim 3, which further comprises~~ A method for gray value correction of binary image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data with n bits, wherein n > 1;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell;

asymmetrically distributing the filter coefficients of the low-pass filter with respect to the filter window;

obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point, said fractions being less than 1, and obtaining further coefficients for the asymmetrical distribution by using the same filter function as used for obtaining symmetrical distributions; and

obtaining corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data with a threshold value operation.

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises carrying out the threshold value operation with a threshold value selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 6, which further comprises storing threshold values in a threshold value table.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

carrying out the threshold value operation with threshold values selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude; and

storing the threshold values in a threshold value table.

Claim 9 (original): The method according to claim 6, which further comprises determining a threshold value function T1 = f1(G,dG) empirically based upon model screen dots and

obtaining a threshold value function T2 = f2(G,dG) therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 10 (original): The method according to claim 7, which further comprises determining a threshold value function T1 = f1(G,dG) empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function T2 = f2(G,dG) therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 11 (original): The method according to claim 8, which further comprises determining a threshold value function T1 = f1(G,dG) empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function T2 = f2(G,dG) therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises obtaining corrected binary image data from the corrected quantized image data by quantization with 1 bit.

Claim 13 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises quantizing the corrected quantized image data with 1 bit to obtain corrected binary image data.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method for gray value correction of screened image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data with n bits, wherein n > 1, such that, in a three dimensional representation, the quantized binary image data forms a plateau having vertical flanks;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell, such that, in the three dimensional representation, the slopes of the vertical flanks are reduced by the filtering; and

asymmetrically distributing the filter coefficients of the low-pass filter with respect to the filter window;

obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point, said fractions being less than 1, and obtaining further coefficients for the asymmetrical distribution by using the same filter function as used for obtaining symmetrical distributions; and

performing a threshold value operation to obtain corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data.

Claims 15 - 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises carrying out the threshold value operation with a threshold value selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude.

Claim 18 (original): The method according to claim 17, which further comprises storing threshold values in a threshold value table.

Claim 19 (original): The method according to claim 17, which further comprises determining a threshold value function T1 = f1(G,dG) empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function T2 = f2(G,dG) therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 20 (original): The method according to claim 18, which further comprises determining a threshold value function T1 = f1(G,dG) empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function T2 = f2(G,dG) therefrom with approximation functions.

Claim 21 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises quantizing the corrected quantized image data with 1 bit to obtain corrected binary image data.